

UPPER JO-MARY LAKE

TA R10 and TB R10, Piacataquis and Penobscot Co. U.S.G.S. Ragged Mt., Me (7½)

Fishes

Landlocked salmon Common shiner Lake trout Blacknose dace Brook trout Creek chub Lake whitefish Fallfish Rainbow smelt White sucker White perch Hornpout (bullhead) Yellow perch Burbot (cusk) Chain pickerel Banded killifish Minnows Redbreast sunfish Lake chub Slimv sculpin Golden shiner American eel

Physical characteristics

Area - 1873 acres Temperatures:

Surface - 67°F

Maximum depth - 72 feet

72 feet - 57°F

Principal fisheries: Landlocked salmon, brook trout, lake trout, white perch

Upper Jo-Mary Lake is surrounded by a vast softwood forest with very few camps. The shoreline has white sand beaches, as well as rugged rocky shoreline. There are two islands and some nice beaches with very shallow water. An unusual feature is a balanced rock found near the out let on the northeast shore.

The water quality is excellent at all depths for coldwater gamefish. It is unfortunate that warmwater fish species are present and so abundant. Without all of these competitors this could be an excellent coldwater fishery. Regardless of the completion a good fishery exists.

Several tributaries provide good spawning for smelts and limited spawning and nursery area for salmon and brook trout. There is limited spawning and nursery area in the outlet for trout and salmon. The lake trout population is native and never been stocked. It appears to be a very small population with only an occasional large individual angled. Smelts were introduced 1970 as forage for the salmon.

To provide a good coldwater fishery salmon and brook trout are stocked each year. This is necessary due to the limited spawning areas and heavy competition from other fish species. The white perch population is very large and should be more heavily fished to better utilize the fishery.

Access can be gained off Rt. 11 south of Millinocket by turning on the Jo-Mary Lake road through the North Maine Woods gate. Gravel boat launch is at the Jo-Mary Lake Campground.

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